

REMARKS

Claim 10-15 and 33-51 are pending. Claims 1-9 and 16-32 have been canceled pursuant to their withdrawal from consideration and subject to applicant's right to file divisional and continuation applications directed to the subject matter of the canceled claims.

In the action mailed March 5, 2006, claims 10-15 and 33-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0110092 to Lin (hereinafter "Lin").

As amended, claim 10 relates to a device that includes a substantially arbitrary arrangement of contacts. The contacts have a definition characteristic of interference lithography. The contacts have been defined in a substrate by a method that includes exposing a first resist using interference lithography, etching a sacrificial layer using the exposed first resist as a guide, covering the sacrificial layer with a second resist, exposing and developing the second resist so that a first portion of the sacrificial layer is uncovered and a second portion of the sacrificial layer remains covered, and etching the substantially arbitrary arrangement of contacts in the substrate using the first portion of the sacrificial layer as a guide.

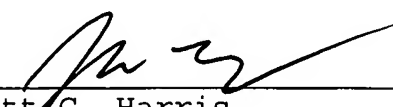
Lin neither describes nor suggests a device that includes such contacts. In this regard, Lin's process involves a single layer of photoresist that is exposed using both interference lithography and "conventional (non-interferometric)" lithography. See, e.g., Lin, para. [0030] (describing that a final exposure of the photoresist is applied).

Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 10 is not anticipated by Lin. Applicant asks that the rejections of claim 10, and the claims dependent therefrom, be withdrawn.

Applicant asks that all claims be allowed. A check for a Petition for a One-Month Extension of Time is enclosed. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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